



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Defendant Sentenced to Six Months for Passport Fraud**

WASHINGTON - Acting United States Attorney Channing D. Phillips and Acting Director Patrick B. Donovan of the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service, today, announced that on June 15, 2009, Jacob Ajomale, 46, was sentenced by the Honorable Ellen S. Huvelle in United States District Court to six months incarceration and two years supervised release for making false statements in applying for a United States passport.

According to the government's evidence, on March 7, 2001, the defendant completed and submitted a U.S. Department of State application for a United States Passport at the will call lobby of the Washington, D.C. Passport Agency office. This office is located at 1111 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Prior to submitting this application, the defendant obtained a valid driver's license from his friend, Emmanuel Adeogoke, with the intent to use Mr. Adeogoke's identity to obtain a fraudulently issued U.S. Passport in his friend's name for his own personal use. In making the application for a U.S. Passport on March 7, 2001, the defendant provided a Maryland driver's license in the name of Emmanuel Adeogoke as valid identification. The defendant and Mr. Adeogoke bear a similar physical facial attributes. Notedly, the Maryland driver's license bore a photograph of an individual with a side facial profile. Further, he

attached a photograph of himself to the application; however, he falsely provided the name, address, date of birth, social security number, and place of birth of Emmanuel Adeogoke as his own to obtain a U.S. Passport. At the time the defendant completed the application, he willfully and knowingly made the aforementioned false statements with full knowledge and understanding that the statements were not true. At the time he made the statements, he was not under any coercion or duress, and his mental capacity was not altered by any substance or mental defect.

After submitting the fraudulent application on March 7, 2001, he received a U.S. Passport. Knowing that his visa issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Services Agency was expired, he used the fraudulently obtained U.S. Passport to travel to Nigeria.

On February 5, 2009, the defendant, pursuant to a federal arrest warrant and as a result of notification by U.S. Customs and Border Protection to the assigned agent, was arrested at Baltimore-Washington International Airport in the International Arrivals terminal.

In announcing the sentence, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended the outstanding work of Special Agent Matthew Frolich of the State Department's Bureau of Diplomatic Security. Mr. Phillips also thanked the assistance provided by legal assistant Priscilla Hutson. Finally, he commended Assistant United States Attorney Angela S. George who investigated and prosecuted this case.

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